



# G-5's "Eye on AMC" U.S. Army Materiel Command

*Essential in Peace, Indispensable in War*

March 5, 2004

## **Picatinny, industry, academia form National Small Arms Center**

Picatinny and 30 small arms representatives from the military, industry and academia have formed a national small arms consortium focused on curbing the shrinking of the U.S. small arms technology base.

The center, which will be based at Picatinny, N.J., seeks to respond to a decline in small arms research, development and procurement since the fall of the Soviet Union. It plans to meet the need for advances in small arms technology, weight reduction, increased firepower and the integration of electronics. These efforts will provide service members with better firepower, and more lethal and light weight weapons.

ARDEC Technical Director Michael P. Devine said that the consortium will mean quick progress in research and development.

Participants in the consortium include: Stevens Institute of Technology of Hoboken, New Jersey Institute of Technology, Smith and Wesson, Glock, Talley Defense, ArmaLite, FNMI, General Dynamics, Heckler and Koch, Lucent, Sandia National Laboratories and the U.S. Army Research Laboratory.

## **LEAN Savings Returned**

Col. William Guinn, Letterkenny Army Depot (LEAD) Commander, presented Lt. Gen. Philip Kensinger, Jr., Commanding General of the U.S. Special Operations Command, a ceremonial check for \$990,000, which represents the savings realized by the application of LEAN principles on the Special Operations Forces Ground Mobility Vehicle (GMV) modification program.

The LEAN manufacturing strategy helps identify and eliminate waste in a process. LEAN manufacturing techniques produce lower costs, higher quality and shorter lead times – and saving money.

Letterkenny and the Special Operations Forces have been working jointly in the development and modification of special purpose HMMWVs that are transformed into the new fighting platform called the GMV. Each team's vehicles are tailored to meet various operational scenarios and tempos.

Vehicle modifications include installation of auxiliary fuel tanks to achieve longer distances, multi-position gun mounts, grenade launchers, and electronic rack mounting for communications augmentation as well as additional ammunition and missile stowage for these vehicles, used in South West Asia, Afghanistan and other locations.

## **Tobyhanna repairs Air Force 'smart bomb' test stations**

Technicians at Tobyhanna Army Depot are now repairing test stations for the U.S. Air Force smart bomb program for the Guided Bomb Unit (GBU)-15, a 2,000-pound smart bomb fired from an F-15 Eagle. The GBU-15 is directed to its target with a television or infrared (IR) seeker. Tobyhanna personnel are repairing and testing five IR seeker field-testing stations.

The work was previously done by a private contractor. Tobyhanna personnel worked with the GBU-15 program office to develop a repair procedures guide, along with their own repair technical orders, since none existed.

Tobyhanna Army Depot is the Defense Department's largest center for the repair, overhaul and fabrication of a wide variety of electronics systems and components, from tactical field radios to the ground terminals for the defense satellite communications network. Tobyhanna's missions support all branches of the Armed Forces.

*"One of the key things I will take home, is that I'm surprised how big an impact Army Materiel Command has in the theater of operations and the war."*

James E. Salter, Jr., currently stationed in Kuwait, is a logistics planner from Rock Island Arsenal's Army Field Support Command.